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 Room 422

ESSEX COUNTY AIDS NETWORK

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 6, 1990

This session focused on goal setting for the Network. Goals were first identified, and then discussed as to how to reach them.

The first goal discussed was advocacy. Brought up were two types of advocacy, personal and program advocacy. Discussed was the possibility of establishing "ad hoc" committees to review proposals/legislation which is being discussed. The advocacy the network should be involved in was thought to be based on an informed educated process, and directed at the general public, legislators or community groups - depending on the issue.

Another goal was to focus less on the Newark area, and more on the whole Essex County area. Actions to reach this goal include meeting at different locations; having liasons or a speaker panel who could go out to different groups and speak, giving a universal message so as to assure valid and current information. More training in urban areas was also discussed as a possible action as well as getting more of the churches involved.

Another goal for the network was to have input into city/county planning. This could help allocate monies to AIDS services. Possible actions to achieve this goal include having network representatives on any city/county planning group; input into planning and fundraising streams. A focus should be turned to long term planning for AIDS, and not just crisis situations. We need to establish a long term goal and objective.

Another goal was to increase access to information. Suggestions to reach this goal include outreach programs; increased networking, circulation of a list of available newsletters and magazines on AIDS; increase reliance on local health departments; sharing relevant articles within the network and spending time developing a video library for the Network.

Other goals proposed, but not discussed included: additional residences for homeless people with AIDS; establishment of a legislative review panel to help agencies understand how possible legislation will affect them; and networking with other networks or coalitions on a state and nationwide level.

• UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jackie Jones announced that the Hyacinth Foundation is now fully staffed! And, administrative offices have moved from Livingston Avenue to 103 Bayard Street, 3rd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. The phone number is still (201)246-0204.

NJWAN announced the availability of 2 pamphlets on the medical manifestations of women and AIDS. Pat Nisler also announced the 2nd Annual Women and AIDS Conference, which will be held on September 17, 1990 at the Holiday Inn Jetport, in Elizabeth, NJ. Nominations are available for 2 different awards for outstanding work in the AIDS field. Contact Pat Nisler (609)984-6328 for more information.

"Beating the Odds" is a one day conference for service providers. Sponsored by the AIDS Regional Education Center at UMDNJ, the conference will be held Wednesday, July 18, 1990 at the Hilton Gateway in Newark. Registration fee is around \$30-\$35. More information is upcoming, or call Richard Powell at 733-4405.

Enclosed is information provided by David Byrnes of East Orange Health Department, on AIDS cases through out the Essex County area.

NJCRI is launching a new drug trial for the drug Rifabutin, which seems promising in preventing MAC.

Richard Powell updated us on the progress which the Newark AIDS Task Force is making in developing a preliminary report. The Task Force has been funded by a grant from The Community Foundation to the Newark Community Project for People With AIDS, which created the Task Force. Attached is an analysis prepared by Waring and Waring Analysis, research consultants to the project, to assist the subcommittees in their tasks.

Spectrum Medical Day Care is now open and accepting referrals. A comprehensive medical and social program is provided to participants. They hope to expand their capacity from 35 to 70+. Contact Lorna Tanjara or Jack Cox at (201)596-2850.

A PERSONAL NOTE: TO MY NETWORK FRIENDS

I was moved and touched by the lovely gift of flowers and the plaque. I shall treasure the thoughts and feelings expressed in the plaque, on the card, and in your personal wishes. You have given me so much and taught me so much; I shall try to share what I have learned when I settle in Houston. Thank you, again, and bless you all.

RUTH